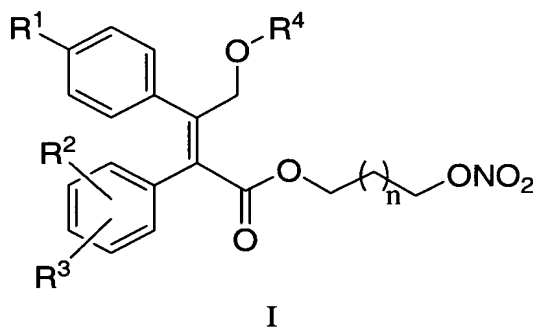


ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The invention encompasses novel compounds of Formula I, which are nitric oxide-releasing prodrugs of diaryl-2-(5H) furanones useful in the treatment of cyclooxygenase-2 mediated diseases.

5



The invention also encompasses certain pharmaceutical compositions and methods for treating cyclooxygenase-2 mediated diseases comprising the use of compounds of Formula I. The above compounds may be used as a combination therapy with low-dose aspirin to treat chronic cyclooxygenase-2 mediated diseases or conditions while also reducing the risk of thrombotic cardiovascular events.

10